

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 00890 020414Z
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSC-05 NSCE-00 L-01 TRSE-00 H-01 PRS-01 PM-03 SP-02
/043 W

-----020419 104933 /14

P 011602Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3195

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 0890

LIMDIS

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, ETRD, PFOR, LE
SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT AND PORT PROCUREMENT

REF: (A) STATE 038106, (B) BEIRUT 0782

1. PRIME MINISTER AL-HASS TOLD ME ON FEB 28 THAT THE GOL
WOULD HAVE TO DELETE THE REF A ITEMS ON WHICH FORD COULD BID
FOR THE PORT PROCUREMENT PROGRAM. HOSS EXPLAINED THAT THE
PROVISION OF FORD-PRODUCED TRUCKS WOULD BE "VERY EMBARRASSING"
TO THE GOL. HE WAS CONVINCED THAT FORD "WAS COMING AND
WILL OFFER BETTER PRICES THAN ITS COMPETITORS IN ORDER TO
BREACH THE BOYCOTT."

2. COMMENT: AL-HOSS IS PERHAPS WORRIED ABOUT POLITICAL
IMPACT OF LEBANESE BREACH OF BOYCOTT, BUT MAY ALSO BE
CONCERNED THAT IT WOULD HAVE ADVERSE EFFECT ON CONTRIBUTIONS
OF OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES TO LEBANESE RECONSTRUCTION.
PARA 4, REF A, STATES "IN ALL AID-FINANCED PROGRAMS IN
ARAB COUNTRIES, WE ARE UNAWARE OF ANY INSTANCE OF REFUSAL
TO USE ANY US SUPPLIES/CONTRACTOR FOR BOYCOTT REASONS." IF
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IF DEPT CONSIDERS THE MATTER SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT AND AID
COULD GIVE US EXAMPLES OF CASES IN JORDAN OR EGYPT, FOR
EXAMPLE, WHERE BOYCOTTED US COMPANIES, AND FORD IN PARTICULAR,
HAVE PROVIDED GOODS UNDER AID PROGRAM, WE COULD TRY TO USE
THIS INFORMATION TO CHANGE AL-HOSS' MIND.
PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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